

Amendments to the Specification

- 1) Please insert the following subtitle at page 1, below the title:

Background

- 2) Please insert the following subtitle and text at page 3, line 13:

Summary

- 3) Please insert the following subtitle and text at page 4, line 4:

Brief Description of the Drawings

For a further understanding of the nature and objects for the present invention, reference should be made to the following detailed description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like elements are given the same or analogous reference numbers and wherein:

- Figure 1 illustrates a diagram of a typical cooling installation;
- Figure 2 illustrates a schematic representation, according to one embodiment of the current invention, of a method for determining the operating parameters of a cooling installation;
- Figure 3 illustrates according to one embodiment of the current invention, the numerical modeling of an article to be treated;
- Figure 4 illustrates according to one embodiment of the current invention, the numerical modeling of a cooling chamber; and
- Figure 5 illustrates a schematic representation, according to one embodiment of the current invention, of a test cycle.

- 4) Please insert the following subtitle and text at page 4, after the above-inserted paragraphs:

Description of Preferred Embodiments

The invention includes a procedure for determining the operating parameters of an installation for the cooling of articles, as described above.

- 5) Please delete the text beginning on page 5, line 29, and ending on page 6, line 3.

- 6) Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 15, with the following:

The general flowchart of the procedure for determining the operating parameters according to the invention will now be described with reference to ~~figure~~ Figure 2.

- 7) Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 1, with the following:
Step 22 of predicting the behavior of the chamber 2 is used to predict by calculation, as will be described later with reference to ~~figure~~ Figure 4, the theoretical temperature profile of the cryogenic fluid inside the chamber 2.
- 8) Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 19, with the following:
Step 24 of predicting the behavior of the articles P is used to determine by calculation, as will be described later with reference to ~~figure~~ Figure 3, enthalpy changes of the articles P according to their external environment and to their initial temperature.
- 9) Please replace the paragraph at page 11, line 14, with the following:
Step 20 of predicting the temperature of the articles P at the outlet of the chamber 2 will now be described in greater detail with reference to ~~figures~~ Figures 3, 4 and 5.
- 10) Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 7, with the following:
In order not to manually input the coordinates of each of the nodes and to maintain simple relationships between the nodes and to facilitate the processing, one solution consists in distributing the nodes in each direction in space using, for example, a geometric progression, as shown in ~~figure~~ Figure 3.
- 11) Please replace the paragraph at page 17, line 10, with the following:
As described previously with reference to ~~figure~~ Figure 1, the cooling chamber 2 is associated with a conveyor 6. The chamber is supplied with cryogenic fluid 4 via a feed line 5. The chamber 2 can be likened to a rectangular parallelepiped.
- 12) Please replace the paragraph at page 19, line 18, with the following:
If it is desired to take this phenomenon into account, it is preferable to solve the local balance equations by starting with the elementary slice located at the outlet of the chamber 2. The calculations are therefore performed in the opposite sense to the path of the articles P, i.e. along the X axis as shown in ~~figure~~ Figure 4.

- 13) Please insert the following paragraph at page 24, line 22:

It will be understood that many additional changes in the details, materials, steps and arrangement of parts, which have been herein described in order to explain the nature of the invention, may be made by those skilled in the art within the principle and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claims. Thus, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the specific embodiments in the examples given above.

- 14) Please replace the subtitle at page 25, line 1, with the following text:

CLAIMS What is claimed is: